

*Cool • Clear • Water*



**Lemolo Falls (low flow)**

This brochure is a cooperative project developed by the Roseburg District Bureau of Land Management and the Umpqua National Forest, with assistance from the Roseburg Visitors and Convention Bureau.

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Cover Photo: Dave Lines

# *Thundering Waters*

**Umpqua National Forest  
Roseburg District  
Bureau of Land Management**



*Toketee Falls*







## Waterfall Environments

Following these guidelines will help protect sensitive waterfall areas.

- **Protect fragile vegetation, stay on the trail.**
- **Be sure matches are completely out. Crush and pack out all cigarettes.**
- **Wash with biodegradable soap, away from open water.**
- **Stream water is easily contaminated by human or animal wastes. If no toilets are available, bury solid wastes in "catholes" 6-8 inches deep, 200 feet from water, campsites, and trails. Pack out toilet paper.**
- **Pack it in, pack it out! Leave nothing behind.**

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# Resident Plants and Animals

The micro-climate of waterfall areas provides a rich environment for an abundance of plants. The plants shown are typical of waterfall environments identified in this brochure.

Mosses, ferns and wildflowers are delicate. Please stay on trails. Take only photographs and leave all plants to be enjoyed by future visitors.



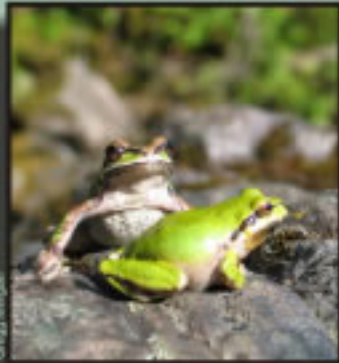
**Fawn Lily**  
*Erythronium oregonum*



**Shooting Star**  
*Dodecatheon meadia*



**Maidenhair Ferns**  
*Adiantum aleuticum*



**Pacific Treefrogs**  
*Hyla regilla*



**Osprey**  
*Pandion haliaetus*



**American Dipper**  
*Cinclus mexicanus*



**Salamander**  
*Oregon ensatina*

Vegetation associated with rivers and streams provides habitat for a variety of animals. Look for a dipper bobbing up and down in a stream, or an osprey flying overhead.

Although you may not see them, many birds using riparian areas can be identified by their song. Listen for the flute-like sounds of the hermit thrush.

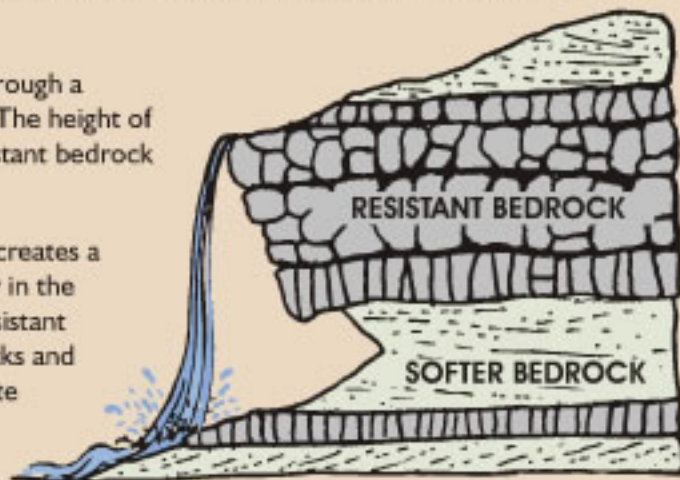
Take the opportunity to observe the plant and animal species found in waterfall and riparian environments, but please do not disturb them.

# The Way Water Falls

**How do waterfalls form?** The Cascade Range is made of volcanic layers from numerous eruptions over the last 35+ million years. The layers, or deposits, originated from numerous sources, each having a different resistance to erosion. They were then uplifted after the volcanic activity stopped. The stream's erosive energy continues to carve the channels that we see today.

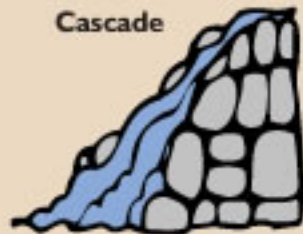
Waterfalls develop when downcutting streams breach through a resistant bedrock layer into the softer material beneath. The height of the waterfall is dependent upon the thickness of the resistant bedrock layer through which the stream erodes.

**Do waterfalls change?** Energy from plummeting water creates a plunge pool at the base of the waterfalls, eroding a cavity in the softer underlying rock. This process undermines the resistant layer, causing it to break apart, piece by piece, along cracks and fissures. Through this process, waterfalls gradually migrate upstream. Over the course of thousands of years, this movement can be a few to several feet.



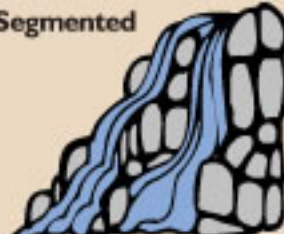
**Are there different types of waterfalls?** Water plummets over ledges of basalt in eight forms. While most falls have elements of more than one form, the examples shown are most representative of each type.

**Cascade**



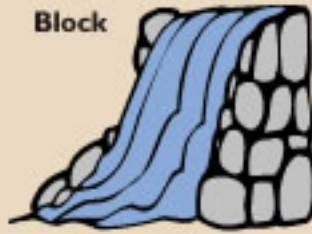
Follows along a series of rock steps

**Segmented**



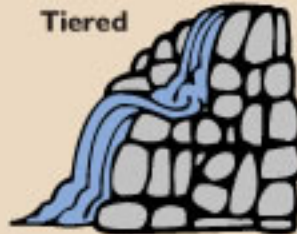
Descends as the stream diverges into 2 or 3 parts

**Block**



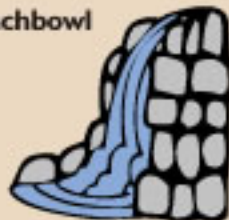
Descends from a wide stream

**Tiered**



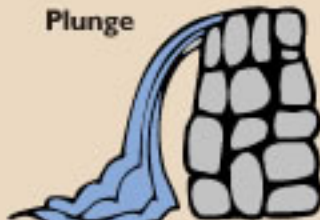
Descends from a distinct series of separate falls

**Punchbowl**



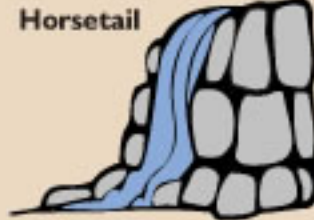
Descends from a constricted width of a stream into a pool below

**Plunge**



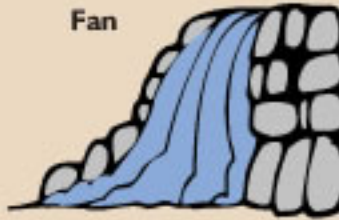
Descends vertically, losing contact with the bedrock surface

**Horsetail**



Descends vertically maintaining some contact with the bedrock surface

**Fan**

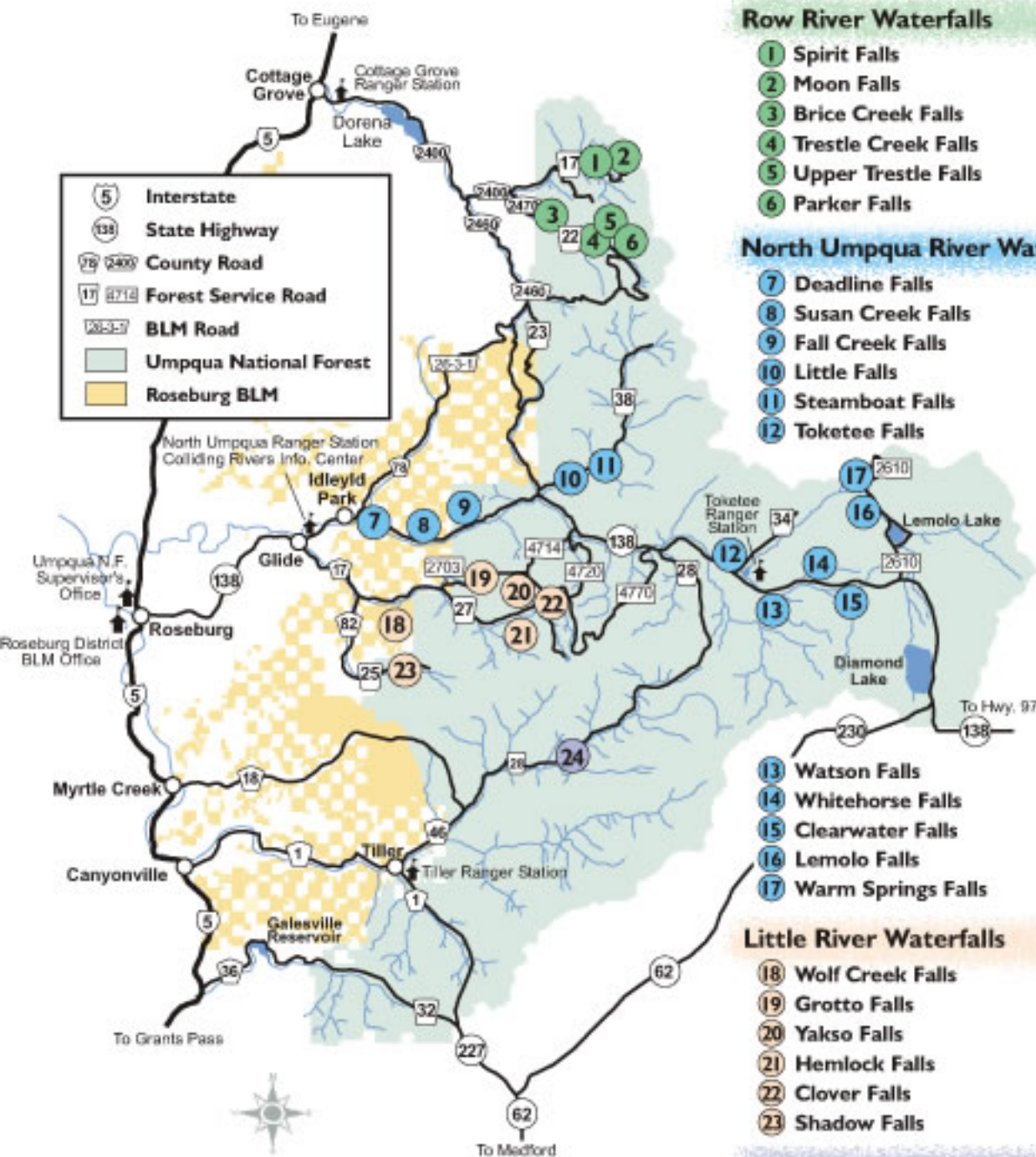


Similar to horsetail form, with an increasing width of spray



# Locations of Thundering Waters

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# Go Safely

- Use caution around steep areas, and wet, slippery rocks and vegetation.
- Know your hiking limits. Some trails are rough and steep.
- Keep informed of current and seasonal conditions of roads and trails leading to waterfalls. Contact Forest Service or BLM offices (weekdays, during office hours) for updated conditions. See brochure back cover for listings.
- Carry an ample supply of water. Do not drink untreated water.
- Beware of poison oak.



Poison Oak, late summer

Spring Foliage

## Recreation Symbols

### FACILITIES



Restroom



Day-use Area



Trail



Campground



Drinking Water

Blue symbols indicate sites  
with accessible facilities

### TRAIL DIFFICULTY RATINGS

The difficulty rating of a trail is determined by the challenge it presents to the physical ability of an average hiker.



#### EASY

Grades: Less than 10%  
Trail Width: 24+ inches  
Surface: Relatively smooth



#### MODERATE

Grades: 10% to 15%, up to 30%  
Trail Width: 12 to 24 inches  
Surface: Can be rough





#### DIFFICULT

Grades: 15% to 20%, up to 30%  
Trail Width: 12 inches  
Surface: Rough  
Distance: May be long

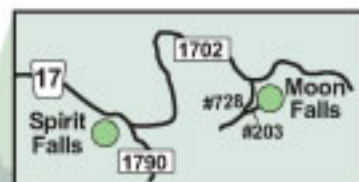
Trail lengths show one-way distance,  
unless otherwise noted.



# Row River Waterfalls

 Umpqua National Forest  
 Campground

To Cottage Grove



## Spirit Falls



**Type of Falls:** Fan

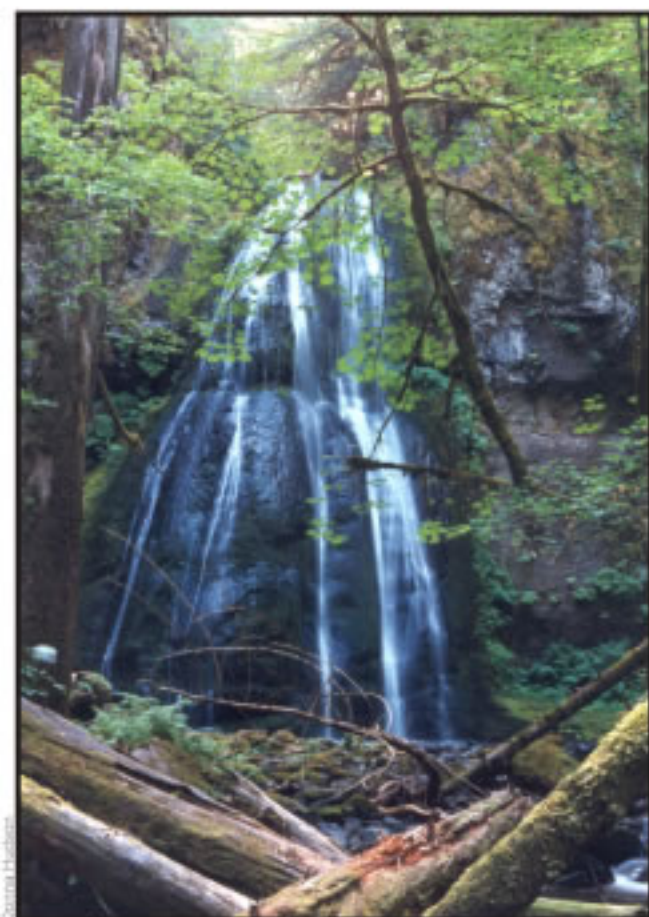
**Trail Length:** 0.35 mile **Rating:**  Difficult

Aptly named, this 60-foot waterfall somehow seems surreal, with water from Alex Creek rushing through moss-covered bedrock. A dense, lush forest, thick with ferns, surrounds the area, shading the waterfall for most of the day. Spirit Falls is located in the Layng Creek Watershed, the municipal water supply for the city of Cottage Grove. Please protect water quality by adhering to regulations of no camping and no swimming.

**Directions:** From I-5 at Cottage Grove (Exit 174), travel east on Row River Road 19.4 miles to junction of Layng Creek Road (#17) and Brice Creek Road (#2470/22). Turn left on Layng Creek Road (#17), traveling 9.0 miles to gravel Road #1790. Turn right and continue 0.1 mile to Spirit Falls Trailhead.

**Nearby Attractions:** Rujada Camp, Moon Falls.

Managed by Cottage Grove Ranger District, USFS



Spirit Falls






Moon Falls



## Moon Falls



**Type of Falls:** Fan

**Trail Length:** 0.5 mile    **Rating:**  Easy

This spectacular 125-foot waterfall ranges from a plunging torrent during the spring rains to a lacy cascade in the summer. Moon Falls is located in the Layng Creek Watershed, the municipal water supply for the city of Cottage Grove. Please protect water quality by adhering to regulations of no camping and no swimming.

**Directions:** From I-5 at Cottage Grove (Exit 174), travel east on Row River Road 19.4 miles to junction of Layng Creek Road (#17) and Brice Creek Road (#2470/22). Turn left on Layng Creek Road (#17), traveling 9.0 miles to gravel Road #1790. Turn right and continue 0.3 mile to Road #1702. Turn left, traveling 2.8 miles to Road 1702-728. Follow Road 1701-728 for 0.3 mile before turning left on Road 1702-203. Continue 0.1 mile to trailhead. Moon Falls Trail #1423 leads to the base of the falls.

**Nearby Attractions:** Spirit Falls, Rujada Camp.

Managed by Cottage Grove Ranger District, USFS

*Moon Falls*





## Brice Creek Falls



**Type of Falls:** Punchbowl & Cascade

**Trail Length:** 0.3 mile **Rating:**  Easy

The Brice Creek corridor is a scenic, rocky canyon with numerous small waterfalls and pools in the creek. One area along Brice Creek includes several small falls that share the same plunge pool.

**Directions:** From I-5 at Cottage Grove (Exit 174), travel east on Row River Road 19.4 miles to junction of Layng Creek Road (#17) and Brice Creek Road (#2470/22). Turn right on Brice Creek Road and continue 4.7 miles on Road 22 to Cedar Creek Campground. Follow the Brice Creek Trail #1403 up-stream to numerous small waterfalls.

**Nearby Attractions:** Cedar Creek Campground, Hobo Camp, Lund Park, Brice Creek Area.

Managed by Cottage Grove Ranger District, USFS



Falls along Brice Creek



Trestle Creek Falls



## Trestle Creek Falls



**Type of Falls:** Fan

**Trail Length:** 0.6 mile **Rating:**  Moderate

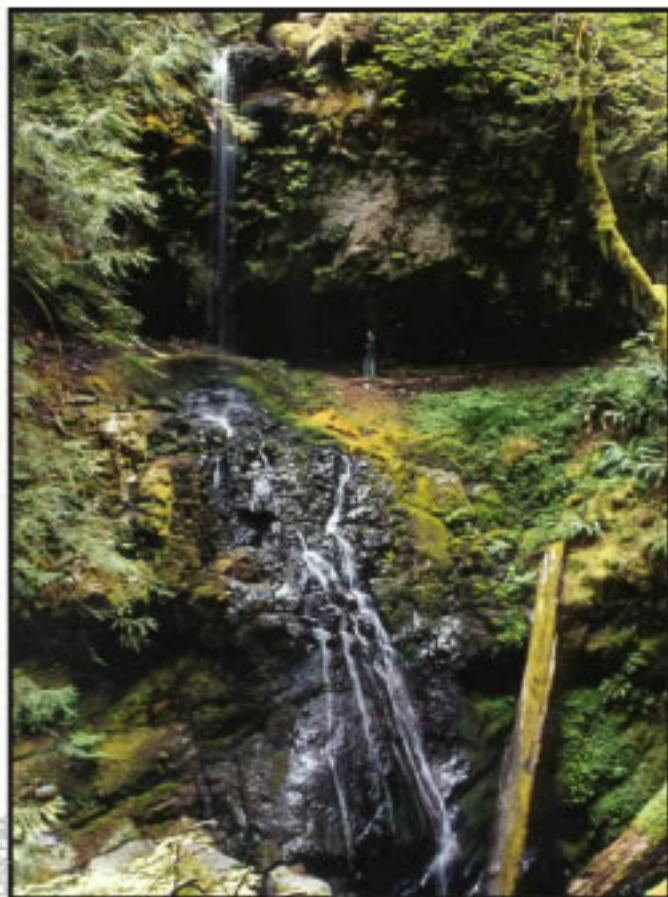
Enjoy this scenic 60-foot waterfall nestled in a moss-covered rock grotto surrounded by a towering old-growth forest. A narrow, meandering trail offers a great family hike.

**Directions:** From I-5 at Cottage Grove (Exit 174), travel east on Row River Road 19.4 miles to junction of Layng Creek Road (#17) and Brice Creek Road (#2470/22). Turn right on Brice Creek Road, traveling 8.3 miles. Park at Brice/Champion Creek Trailhead just before the bridge. Cross bridge to Brice Creek Trail #1403, hiking 0.4 mile to Trestle Creek Falls Trail #1403C. Continue for 0.25 mile to falls.

**Nearby Attractions:** Noonday Trail #1405, Lund Park, Hobo Camp, Cedar Creek Campground.

Managed by Cottage Grove Ranger District, USFS





Upper Trestle Falls



Parker Falls



## Upper Trestle Creek Falls



**Type of Falls:** Tiered

**Trail Length:** 2.6 miles (loop) **Rating:** Difficult

Take this unique opportunity to walk behind a 65-foot tiered waterfall. Hikers will find the water's mist refreshing, reinvigorating them for the remainder of their hike. The trail passes through forested and lush fern landscapes.

**Directions:** From I-5 at Cottage Grove (Exit 174), travel east on Row River Road 19.4 miles to junction of Layng Creek Road (#17) and Brice Creek Road (#2470/22). Continue straight on Brice Creek Road, traveling 8.3 miles to the Brice/Champion Creek Trailhead just before the bridge. There is parking and a vault toilet at this location. Walk across the bridge, pass Brice Creek Trailhead and continue 50 feet to Upper Trestle Creek Trailhead.

**Nearby Attractions:** Noonday Trail #1405, Lund Park, Hobo Camp, Cedar Creek Campground.

Managed by Cottage Grove Ranger District, USFS



## Parker Falls



**Type of Falls:** Fan

**Trail Length:** 0.8 mile **Rating:** Difficult

Following parts of an old trail used by early rangers, this narrow, rocky, main trail leads to the Lower (35-foot) and Upper Parker (40-foot) waterfalls.

**Directions:** From I-5 at Cottage Grove (Exit 174), travel east on Row River Road 19.4 miles to junction of Layng Creek Road (#17) and Brice Creek Road (#2470/22). Turn right on Brice Creek Road (#2470/22), traveling 10.8 miles to turnout at west end of bridge crossing Brice Creek. Hike on Trail #1415 0.5 mile to lower falls, 0.8 mile to upper falls.

**Nearby Attractions:** Noonday Trail #1405, Lund Park, Hobo Camp, Cedar Creek Campground.

Managed by Cottage Grove Ranger District, USFS



# North Umpqua River Waterfalls



## Deadline Falls



**Type of Falls:** Block

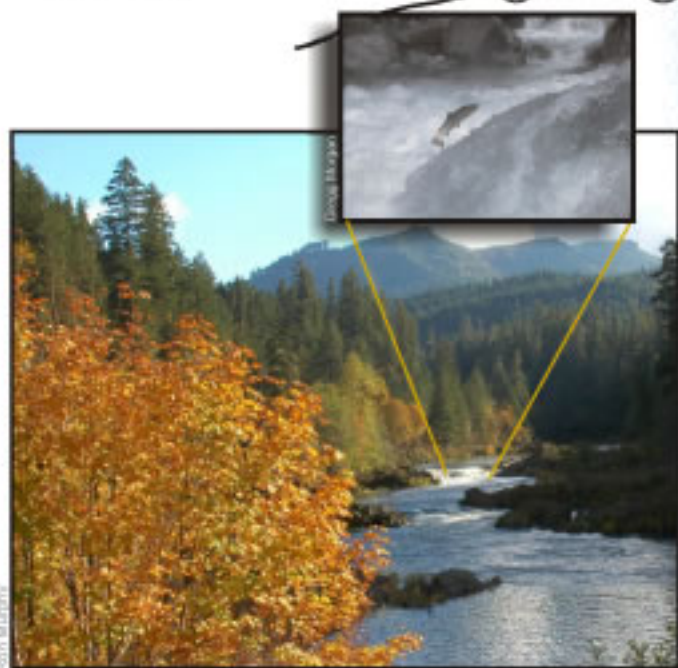
**Trail Length:** 0.25 mile **Rating:** Easy

Deadline Falls is a short but massive falls on the North Umpqua Wild and Scenic River. Between May and October, anadromous (sea-run) steelhead and salmon may be observed jumping up the powerful falls on their journey from the ocean to spawn in the tributary waters of the Cascade Mountains. A 100-foot side trail to the Deadline Falls Watchable Wildlife Site is located a quarter-mile up the North Umpqua Trail from the beginning of the Tioga Segment at the Swiftwater Trailhead. It is accessible to people with disabilities, and popular with seniors and families with young children.

**Directions:** At milepost 22.1 on Hwy. 138, turn south crossing Swiftwater bridge, then immediately turn left into trailhead parking area. This area is the western-most end of the 79-mile North Umpqua Trail.

**Nearby Attractions:** Swiftwater Day-Use Area, Swiftwater County Park, Rock Creek Fish Hatchery, Susan Creek Campground.

Managed by Roseburg District, BLM



Deadline Falls, North Umpqua River









## Susan Creek Falls



**Type of Falls:** Fan

**Trail Length:** 0.8 mile (Accessible)

**Rating:**   Easy   Moderate

This spectacular waterfall drops 50 feet over moss-lined rock cliffs. The 0.8 mile trail is moderately accessible to people with disabilities. After reaching the falls, hikers can continue on a difficult trail (not disabled accessible), 0.4 mile to the Susan Creek Indian Mounds. Here, Indian boys approaching manhood built stone piles, then spent the night in search of a vision from a guardian spirit.

**Directions:** At milepost 28.2 on Hwy. 138.

**Nearby Attractions:** Susan Creek Day-Use Area, Susan Creek Campground, Fall Creek Falls.

Managed by Roseburg District, BLM



### Hint

Photos taken under high contrasts of light and dark (sun and shadows) result in lower quality waterfall photos. Look for light overcast days to minimize the contrast, or shoot in early morning or later afternoon when the sun angle is low for higher quality photos.

*Susan Creek Falls*





## Fall Creek Falls



**Type of Falls:** Tiered/Fan

**Trail Length:** 1 mile **Rating:**  Moderate

A one-mile trail passes through a narrow bedrock crevice and lush vegetation to a double falls with tiers of 35 and 50-feet. It is a good walk for families with a few moderately steep climbs. Job's Garden Trail takes off at the 0.5 mile point, leading to the base of a basalt columnar rock outcropping.

**Directions:** At milepost 32.2 on Hwy. 138. Trailhead parking is on north side of the highway.

**Nearby Attractions:** Susan Creek Falls, Susan Creek Campground, Bogus Creek Campground, Wright Creek Trailhead.

Managed by North Umpqua Ranger District, USFS



Fall Creek Falls



Little Falls



## Little Falls

**Type of Falls:** Segmented

**Falls located next to unpaved parking along road**

**Rating:**  Easy

Located on Steamboat Creek, this small but powerful waterfall pours over large basalt boulders and cliffs. Parking at the site is limited, additional parking space is available up-stream along Road 38.

**Directions:** At milepost 38.3 on Hwy. 138, turn north on Steamboat Road #38. Proceed 1.3 miles up Road 38. Falls are visible along the right side of the road.

**Nearby Attractions:** Canton Creek Campground, Island Campground, Steamboat Falls, Steamboat Inn.

Managed by North Umpqua Ranger District, USFS



## Steamboat Falls

(No photograph)



**Type of Falls:** Block

**Trail Length:** 100 feet **Rating:**  Easy

Located at the Steamboat Falls Campground (near campsites 5 and 6), early summer visitors (May through July) can see steelhead attempting to jump the 25-foot falls adjacent to the fish ladder.

**Directions:** At milepost 38.3 on Hwy. 138, turn north on Steamboat Road #38. Drive 5.3 miles to Road 3810, turn right and stay to the left 0.6 mile to Steamboat Falls Campground entrance.

**Nearby Attractions:** Steamboat Inn, Canton Creek Campground, Little Falls.

Managed by North Umpqua Ranger District, USFS



## Toketee Falls



**Type of Falls:** Tiered

**Trail Length:** 0.4 mile **Rating:**  Moderate

A trail leads visitors through an old-growth forest along the North Umpqua River with views of cascading water through a narrow rock gorge. The trail has 200 steps leading to a sturdy deck overlooking the two-tiered falls. The upper descent drops 40-feet, and the lower falls plunge 80-feet over a sheer wall of volcanic basalt. In the Chinook language, the word "Toketee" means "pretty", or "graceful", an apt name for this inspiring waterfall. The trail is for hikers only.

**Directions:** At milepost 58.6 on Hwy. 138 turn north onto Road 34. Stay left at the Y and cross the bridge. Trailhead road is 200 feet on the left.

**Nearby Attractions:** Toketee Lake Campground, Toketee Ranger Station, Watson Falls.

Managed by Diamond Lake Ranger District, USFS



Toketee Falls





## Watson Falls



**Type of Falls:** Plunge

**Trail Length:** 0.4 mile

**Rating:**  Moderate

This majestic waterfall is the highest in southwest Oregon, plunging 272 feet over the edge of a basalt lava flow. A wooden bridge crosses Watson Creek 0.3 mile from the trailhead, and offers an excellent view of the falls. The falls are also visible from the parking area.

**Directions:** At milepost 60.5 on Hwy. 138, turn south on to Road 37. Parking is on the right.

**Nearby Attractions:** Toketee Lake Campground, Toketee Falls.

Managed by Diamond Lake Ranger District, USFS





## Whitehorse Falls



**Type of Falls:** Punchbowl

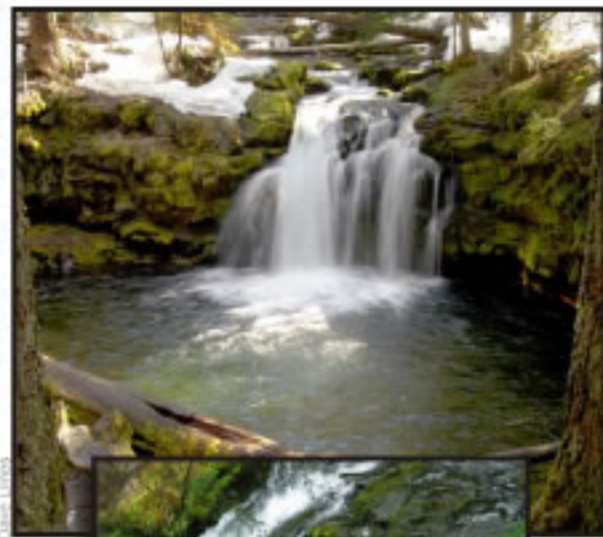
**Rating:**  Easy

Located adjacent to Whitehorse Falls Campground, visitors have an immediate view of this 15-foot falls on the Clearwater River.

**Directions:** At milepost 65.9 on Hwy. 138, turn north at Whitehorse Falls Campground entrance.

**Nearby Attractions:** Toketee Falls, Toketee Lake Campground, Watson Falls.

Managed by Diamond Lake Ranger District, USFS

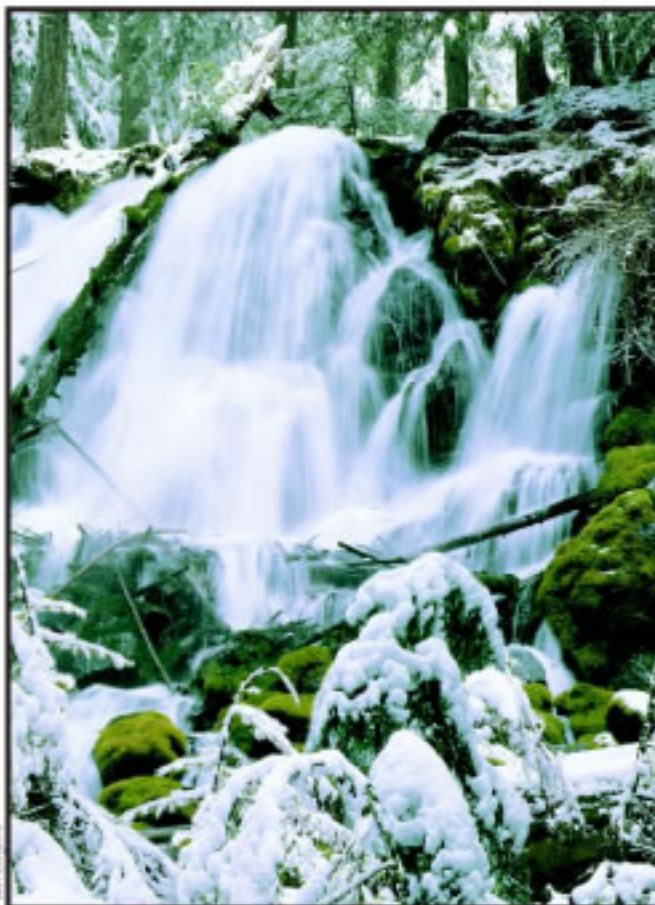


Whitehorse Falls



*Hint*

For a soft water effect, use a longer shutter speed and a tripod (see photos, this page).




Clearwater Falls



## Clearwater Falls



**Type of Falls:** Segmented

**Distance to Falls:** 400 feet **Rating:**  Easy

This 30-foot falls cascades over moss-covered rocks and logs and is only a short walk up the Clearwater River. The falls are adjacent to Clearwater Falls Campground.

**Directions:** At milepost 69.5 on Hwy. 138, turn south at the Clearwater Falls Campground entrance. Follow access road for 0.2 mile to the picnic area.

**Nearby Attractions:** Lemolo Lake, Whitehorse Falls Campground, Watson Falls, Toketee Falls.

Managed by Diamond Lake Ranger District, USFS





## Lemolo Falls



**Type of Falls:** Horsetail

**Trail Length:** 1.7 mile (Route 1) **Rating:**  Difficult

The word "Lemolo" is a Chinook Indian term meaning "wild" or "untamed". The meaning comes to life as the North Umpqua River plunges 102 feet into a deep pool.

**Directions: Route 1** (Best View): At milepost 72.8 on Hwy. 138, turn north on Road 2610, proceeding 4.2 miles. Turn left on Road 3401, Thorn Prairie Road. Go about 0.5 mile, turn right on Road 3401-800. Continue 1.75 miles, turn right at Road 3401-840. The trail is at the end of the road 0.25 mile. The trail works its way down the canyon to the base of the falls. **Route 2** (Limited Topside View): At Milepost 72.8 on Hwy. 138, turn north on Road 2610, proceeding 5.2 miles, crossing the dam to the fork in the road. Take fork to the left, Road 2610-600. Proceed 0.5 mile, turn left across wooden bridge and park at the trailhead. This trail is 1.5 miles in length, following the North Umpqua Trail.

**Nearby Attractions:** Lemolo Lake Resort, Poole Creek Campground, Warm Springs Falls.

Managed by Diamond Lake Ranger District, USFS



Lemolo Falls, high flow



## Warm Springs Falls



**Type of Falls:** Block

**Trail Length:** 0.3 mile **Rating:**  Easy

Columns of basalt are continuously pounded as this waterfall thunders over the 70-foot drop into the pool below. The trail ends above the falls. There is no access to the base of the falls. **Use caution nearing the edge of the bluffs, there are no guardrails.**

**Directions:** At milepost 72.8 on Hwy. 138, turn north on to Road 2610, going approximately 6 miles. After the dam, stay left on Road 2610, proceeding approximately 3 miles to Road 680. Turn left and proceed 1.7 miles to the beginning of Warm Springs Trail #1499.

**Nearby Attractions:** Lemolo Falls, Lemolo Lake Resort, Poole Creek Campground.

Managed by Diamond Lake Ranger District, USFS



Warm Springs Falls



# Little River Waterfalls



## Wolf Creek Falls



**Type of Falls:** Tiered  
(see photos on page 21, Seasonal Flows)

**Trail Length:** 1.2 mile **Rating:**  Moderate

Secluded in a tranquil forest setting, a beautiful two-tiered waterfall tumbles over rock cliffs to a pool below. The upper falls drops 75 feet and the lower falls drops 50 feet. Water flows vary from full-fan in spring to a narrowed spout in late summer.

**Directions:** At milepost 16 on Hwy. 138, turn south on Little River Road (County Road 17) and travel for 11 miles to trailhead parking and footbridge. A restroom and additional parking are across the road.

**Nearby Attractions:** Wolf Creek Campground, Coolwater Campground, Grotto Falls.

Managed by Roseburg District, BLM



## Grotto Falls



**Type of Falls:** Plunge  
(see photo on page 1)

**Trail Length:** 0.3 mile **Rating:**  Moderate

The glistening waters of this attractive waterfall invite visitors to experience a closer view. Water plunges 100 feet over a cliff with the trail passing behind the falls into a natural cavern. This trail is developed for hiker use only.

**Directions:** At milepost 16 on Hwy. 138, turn south on Little River Road (County Road 17, becoming Forest Road 27) and follow for 16.1 miles. Turn left on Road 2703 and travel for 4.4 miles to Road 2703-150, following for 2 miles to the trailhead turnout, just past Emile Creek Bridge.

**Nearby Attractions:** Coolwater Campground, Emile Shelter.

Managed by North Umpqua Ranger District, USFS





## Yakso Falls



**Type of Falls:** Fan

**Trail Length:** 0.7 mile

**Rating:**  Moderate

Little River drops 60 feet, as protruding rocks spread the water flow to make Yakso Falls a spectacular sight.

**Directions:** At milepost 16 on Hwy. 138, turn south on Little River Road (County Road 17, turning into Forest Road 27) and follow for 25.8 miles (7 of which are gravel) to Lake-in-the-Woods Campground. Trailhead parking is at the campground entrance. The Yakso Falls Trail #1519 is across Road 27 from the campground.

**Nearby Attractions:** Hemlock Lake Campground, Grotto Falls, Hemlock Falls, Clover Falls.

Managed by North Umpqua Ranger District, USFS

*Yakso Falls*





Hemlock Falls



## Hemlock Falls



**Type of Falls:** Horsetail

**Trail Length:** 0.4 mile **Rating:**  Moderate

Rock formations, verdant ferns and towering trees surround this 80-foot rush of water along Hemlock Creek.

**Directions:** At milepost 16 on Hwy. 138, turn south on Little River Road (County Road 17, turning into Forest Road 27) and follow for 25.8 miles (7 of which are gravel) to Lake-in-the-Woods Campground. Trailhead parking is at the campground entrance. Access to Hemlock Falls Trail is near camp site #1.

**Nearby Attractions:** Hemlock Lake Campground, Yakso Falls, Clover Falls.

Managed by North Umpqua Ranger District, USFS



## Clover Falls



**Type of Falls:** Block

**Trail Length:** 1.25 mile from Lake-in-the-Woods  
2.25 miles from Hemlock Lake

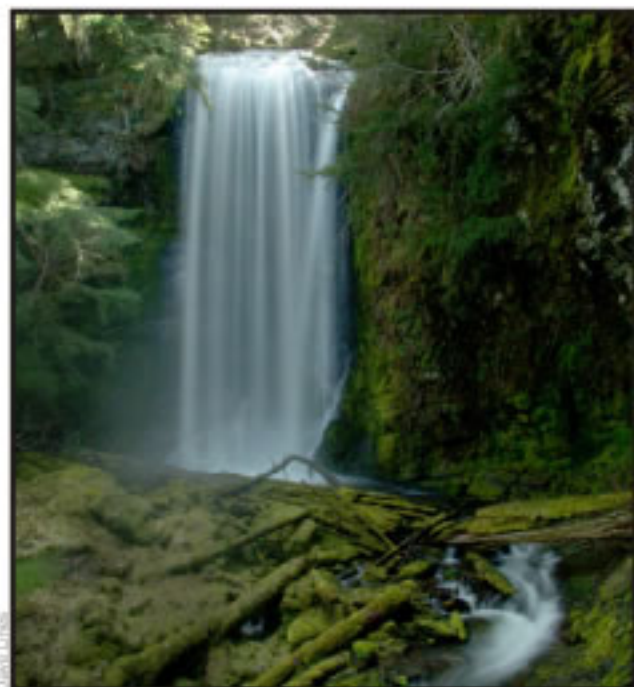
**Rating:**  Difficult

Water cascades from this secluded falls. Hikers along the Hemlock Creek Trail will encounter this scenic waterfall between Hemlock Lake and Lake-in-the-Woods Campgrounds.

**Directions:** At milepost 16 on Hwy. 138, turn south on Little River Road (County Road 17, turning into Forest Road 27) and follow for 25.8 miles (7 of which are gravel) to Lake-in-the-Woods Campground. Travel 0.2 mile to trailhead. Follow Trail #1505 for 1.25 miles. The trail continues 2.25 miles to Hemlock Lake and Hemlock Lake Campground.

**Nearby Attractions:** Hemlock Falls, Hemlock Lake Campground, Lake-in-the-Woods Campground, Grotto Falls, Yakso Falls.

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Clover Falls





## Shadow Falls



**Type of Falls:** Tiered

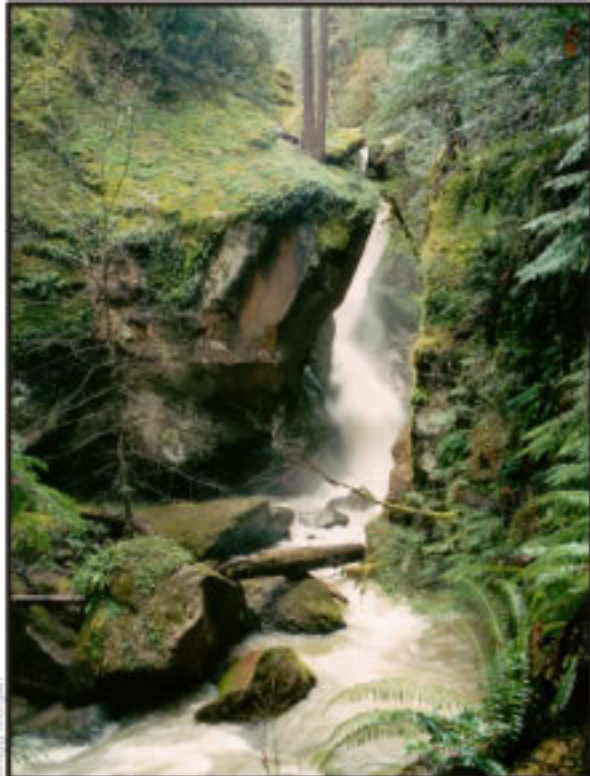
**Trail Length:** 0.8 mile **Rating:**  Moderate

This triple-tiered waterfall on Cavitt Creek totals 100-feet. The creek, working its way through a rock fracture, forms a narrow grotto. Immediately downstream from the falls, next to the trail, are interesting weathered bedrock formations.

**Directions:** At milepost 16 on Hwy. 138, turn south on Little River Road (County Road 17) and follow for 6.6 miles. Turn right at the covered bridge on Cavitt Creek (Road #82B) and continue 11.6 miles on Roads 82 and Forest Road #25 to the trailhead. Follow Trail #1504 to the falls.

**Nearby Attractions:** Wolf Creek Falls, Wolf Creek Campground, Cavitt Creek Campground, Coolwater Campground, Grotto Falls.

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Shadow Falls

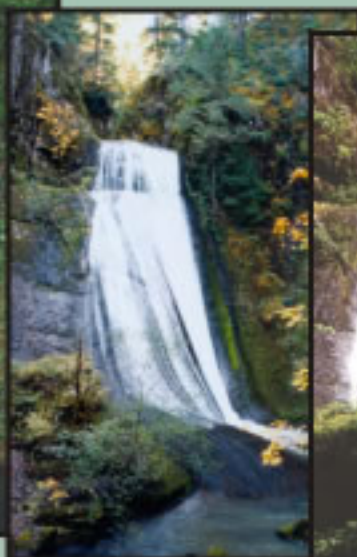
## Seasonal Flows

The amount of water flow varies according to the season and recent weather conditions. At times, a waterfall may be a thundering torrent, and other times, a mere trickle. All of the waterfalls in this brochure have year-round flow, even during dry seasons.

These photographs show the seasonal flow differences of Wolf Creek Falls. See page 18 for information on this waterfall.



Low



Moderate



High



# South Umpqua River Waterfalls



South Umpqua Falls




## South Umpqua Falls



**Type of Falls:** Cascade

**Falls Location:** Next to parking area

**Trail Rating:**  Easy

This falls results in a unique formation on the South Umpqua River, where shallow water flows over a wide slab of bedrock and plunges 15 feet into a deep pool. An observation deck overlooks the falls and a fish passage ladder. Trespassing on the fish ladder is prohibited by state law. The picnic area is popular during the summer and is managed as an "alcohol free" recreation site.

**Directions:** Take I-5 to Canyonville (Exit 98), and County Road 1 east 26 miles to Tiller. At Tiller, take County Road 46, which becomes South Umpqua Road 28, for a total of 21 miles to the South Umpqua Falls Picnic Area.

**Nearby Attractions:** South Umpqua Falls Campground, South Umpqua River Corridor, Boulder Creek Campground. There are also other small waterfalls to discover in the South Umpqua Area.

Managed by Tiller Ranger District, USFS



# Past Lives at Waterfalls

Native American Indians living in the Umpqua Basin when trappers and settlers first arrived included the Yoncalla Kalapuya, Upper Umpqua, Upper Coquille, Southern Molalla and the Cow Creek Band of Umpqua. Although the tribes spoke different languages and had different customs, their lifestyle had much in common.

During the winter, permanent villages were located in the lowland valleys. The cold, wet winter months were spent repairing tools that would be used during other times of the year.

With the arrival of spring, the Indians would dig camas and other edible roots and bulbs, harvest berries, and hunt game. During these months, salmon would run in nearby rivers. Fishing provided a large and dependable source of food.

Technologies were developed to harvest their reliable food source. Walls of stone or brush in the rivers would force the salmon into basket traps or shallow water where they could be caught with dip nets.

## Umpqua

*Many theories exist on the meaning of the Indian word Umpqua, some are: Thundering Water . . . The sound the water makes . . . Across the water . . . and, One is satisfied. Visit some of these beautiful landscaped and experience the roar of falling water as the Native American Indians did.*

Fishing platforms were often placed near falls where dip nets, spears (leisters) or harpoons were used to catch fish. South Umpqua and Steamboat falls were areas where fishing platforms probably existed.

In the summer months, the people moved into the uplands, following the ripening plants to higher ground.

As fall approached, the Indians returned to the valley floor to harvest acorns and fish the fall salmon runs. The fish would be dried and smoked to ensure a winter supply of food.

